

# Opinion

## Ambulance situation turns into a fiasco

No matter how you shake it, the ambulance situation in the county has turned into a major fiasco. And everyone has wound up in the loser's bracket.

What is truly a shame is that the manner in which the situation was handled put the issues all twisted around and confused. Instead of county taxpayers being faced with the question of "How can we best provide an ambulance service to the citizens of our community?" — the question became "How dare the Fiscal Court impose on us a tax we just rejected with our sacred vote?"

No one we have talked to in the county — and we received opinions from far and wide — says that they think the county doesn't need an ambulance service. What our citizens object to is the manner in which they were treated in the deal. In fact, most tell us that they could live with the 3.5 cent tax, but not with the way it was slipped on them.

When the original vote failed, we believe it failed primarily because county taxpayers had no idea how their money was going to be used. As we urged two weeks before the election, county government should have presented some sort of plan to the people.

When the people stormed the courthouse Monday, they were not coming to say "We don't want an ambulance service." They were coming to oppose the County's action in over-riding their vote.

While looking back now may be a needless digression, it is the opinion of many that we talked to that if some leadership had emerged early in the crisis, the Court could probably have

placed a tax on even without referendum. We'd wager that if the plan had been thoroughly explained and if the people were given opportunity to speak out before the tax, the grumbling would have stopped after a short while. Unfortunately, that's not the way it happened.

But in brief — and very unpopular — support of the Court must say that they realized they had blown it. And they took what action they felt was in the best interest of the welfare of the citizens of their county. But the manner in which they took that action left us understandably resentful for the actions of county taxpayers.

Monday's meeting has ripped open wounds in the structure of the court and will doubtlessly affect its performance as a functioning body. We can only hope that it won't effect the Court to the point in which they will cease to look for other solutions to the problem.

We still need some leadership that will develop a plan and take it to the people. If everyone goes home to lick their wounds and wash their hands of the matter, there are people living in the county right now who may not survive this time next year because of this debacle.

We hope someone still has the courage to try and find a solution. And we hope they will heed our earliest advice to take the matter to the public before asking them to buy it. Otherwise we are in the loser's bracket for a long, long time.

## Nuclear indifference

The Reagan administration made a serious mistake when it agreed to seal nuclear funds to Brazil even though Brazil refuses to sign the International Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Brazil is not in any immediate need of the fuel, and the administration already has made plenty of other gestures of friendship to Brazil. Nonetheless, the administration decided that "good relations" require it to give up now the only leverage it might have had in future negotiations with Brazil about nuclear weapons development.

The non-proliferation treaty, of course, is no guarantee that nuclear weapons will be kept out of the most unstable regions of the world. But it is, right now, the best protection we have. Among other things, it requires signatories to submit to regular inspections by an international agency, that the world at least will know whether the

signators are using their nuclear capabilities for peaceful purposes or for weapons development. For the Reagan administration to undermine even this limited attempt at sanity in nuclear affairs is dangerously provocative — particularly when the American retreat was, from a diplomatic perspective, unnecessary.

The non-proliferation effort was difficult enough when the U.S. role was to convince our reluctant allies to support it. The new agreement with Brazil sets quite a different example, and, to the detriment of all, our allies undoubtedly will find it easier to follow. By promising nuclear fuel to nations that do not permit international inspections of their nuclear facilities, the Reagan administration has signaled less about its friendship for Brazil than about its disdain for the international treaty and the weapons and weapons proliferation problem.

## New book gives background for administration cuts

By Anthony Harrison  
As President Reagan strives to fulfill his inaugural pledge to "curb the size and influence of the Federal establishment," an on-going editorial project is needed to enlighten the public as to the reasons behind the cuts. The author of this important work, a summary of this topic has been published under the title of "A Preview

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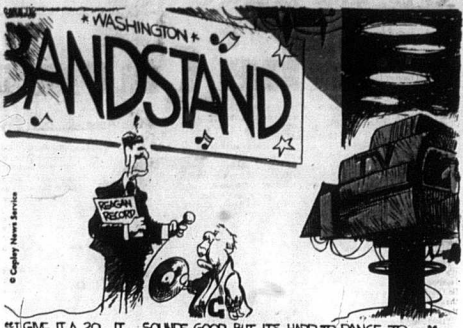
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## Agree or not

Now is the time to equalize power between governor and legislature

By S.C. Van Curen

The legislature has never had a better opportunity to bring its power more equal to the governor's office than it will have in the 1982 session. Now, I vote on the issue. It is put into action and submitted for legislative approval as much as a year and a half later.

The legislature could take absolute control of the budget process, appoint an executive officer if it wishes, and let the governor have recommendation privileges only.

Many states use such systems. A legislative committee should have the power to approve, disapprove, or amend any bill. At least, top limits should be set for certain projects.

The Repealers Oversight Committee should have the authority to turn down any regulation submitted. At least, top limits should be set for certain projects.

The 1982 legislature has the authority and the will to equalize its power with that of the governor's office. It remains to be seen if they have the will to do it.

## Down Memory Lane

Turkeys bring 20 cents a pound

Corrected: In last week's Memory Lane it was incorrectly listed that Sandra Sue Cartwright was married to Ronnie Allen Gowan, Jr. 1961. It should have read Sandra Sue Faulconer.

Thursday, November 12, 1981  
The teachers and students of the Nicholas County Grade School have passed a school that puts on the school with money raised by selling school supplies by the teachers, students and other members of the school.

MARRIED — Miss Juanita Humphries and Mr. Robert W. Humphries are the bride and groom at the wedding of the Nicholas County Grade School, attended by the conference of the Department of Elementary School Principals at the Bowling Education Association in Bowling Green, Nov. 9 and 10.

DEED — Mrs. Rhoda Lawrence Brothers, Mayfield, widow of Newton Brothers, Nov. 11. Greener, Nicholas County, Ky. 11. Tuesday, November 11, 1981. Leonard John Tubbs, Jr., Wednesday, November 11, 1981. Mrs. Maggie Mae Franco, Tuesday, November 11, 1981. Memorial Hospital in Cincinnati. Charles W. Fealick, Jr., Monday at Nicholas County Hospital. Mrs. Matilda Dampier Shelds, 75, wife of John Shelds, Monday at Nicholas County Hospital. — Warden Ramon, Monday at the Nicholas County Detention Center. — Richard Wayne Lallen, Monday, son of Carl and Susan Day Lallen.

## The Carlisle Mercury

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## Op-Ed page

I'd rather be a vet than President... then I could fix those cheap trends in mine

"Christmas cards!" I asked. "Is that your Christmas card list? How would I could say or two, but aren't you pushing the season a little?" She began fiddling it so that the dip, she answered. "There's a lot of me. And I felt ashamed of myself."

"Oh, dear," I began. "I've planned a really big party for you and I spoiled it, didn't I?" The confusion faded and re-faded the paper. And I began to feel really bad about it. "Lament," I said. "Presently I never saw the list. I was not anything more about it. I'll be surprised, I presume. Is that right?"

"Mama, listen," "Got it all figured out, haven't you? Well, you're wrong again. This isn't a Christmas card list, or a party list, but you could call it a shopping list."

"Hold everything," I yelled. "In this sense kind of charity? You're going to collect money for a charity?" "Charity, yes, begins at home," she responded sweetly, but her expression was grim. "Don't you read the papers? All

the bigshots are doing it these days. Ronald Reagan, George Bush, Coleman Young, all are doing it. "All the big shots are doing what?" "Raising donations to fix up their dips," she answered. "There's a lot of boy furniture and things like new carpet and art work, lines and china and silver."

"The governor is going to do the handout and his political friends are all around of the bottom of the pot?" "All wrapped at that! Today I get a notice that our Menace disease are an old the lifetime guarantee has run out."

"I included the list and went over the names. 'Oh, huh,' I said. 'Yip, He's good for that much. 'Tis rare. And that one ought to be able to come up with that amount.'"

"That list, honey, I really wouldn't count on my hanging buddies at 250 a year. 'Now you could lump them together \$10,000 to redress his vice presidential residence. That was the last straw. 'You're always telling me how brilliant and important you are. So if you're such a big man' she was nodding on now, grabbing a trying pan and a dinner plate, "how come we've

been so poor?" "I'm not surprised," Reagan said to a pretty good argument for selling AWAC's to the Saudis. Some of his letters were saved."

Hope here, it seems to me. Toward a surely of deathless man has stretched your hands away. May it be that Mandel holds the glass for him to see."

Perhaps it is because of these thoughts that there came to me as the little blue flames began to dance and the embers of my heart fire to glow and midnight was not afar off, a line here and there from Bryant, a poet of whom I like to think as one who "looked through Nature up to Nature's God." So that I find his book and read:

The groves were God's first temples. Ere man learned To give the shaft and to the architrave, And to the cool shadow them — we framed The lofty vault, to gather and roll back The sound of anthem — in the darkling wood, Amid the cool and silence, he knelt down And offered to the Mightiest solemn thanks, And supplication, for his simple heart Might rest and find the sacred influence, From the stillly twilight of the place, And from the gray old fountains, that high in heaven Mingled their mossy ovals, and from the sound Of the invisible south, that swooped at once All their green tops, stole over them, and bowed His spirit, with the thought of boundless Power, And inaccessible Might. Ah, why Should we, in the world's error, neglect

full meeting, I headed on down I-64 to visit with my fiancée's family. Her brother and sister-in-law were there with their one-month-old girl. What's so great about that you might ask? Well, you remember that loathsome little monster who also resides in their home? That fluffy creature who is the absolute bane of my existence? That sickening little poodle with the cutie-poo Irish name? Yes, Patrick!

If you can only imagine the torture inflicted upon that spoiled warmitt with a newborn baby in his tiny shocker around for a couple of weeks or so. The over-grown rat was so upset that she hid behind doors and under tables the entire weekend. She even refused to eat.

I had a wonderful dream Saturday night of the kid hanging around for a couple of weeks or so. The starved carcass of my mortal enemy being carried away to her final resting place in the Happy Gardens Pet Hospital/Crematorium. It was wonderful, I didn't want to wake up.

If any of you mothers out there have small children who would be willing to rent out for a month, please give me a call. I will pay dearly.

I had a most enjoyable weekend to cap of a very busy election week. I had a revealing time at the Kentucky Weekly Newspaper Association's

Thank You  
To the Citizens of Carlisle, my sincerest Thanks for your support and the faith you have placed in me.  
Thanks, Cliff Waugh

If Casner had an AWAC he'd have heard Ross-Lane having. If Robert R. Lane had an AWAC he could have whipped the Senate and Lew Grant in a single night. If Frank Casner had an AWAC he'd say it up your nose. If John Wayne had an AWAC he'd have needed less than a year to get it. If Paul Byrne had an AWAC he'd have been back in bed by midnight. If Benjamin Franklin had an AWAC he wouldn't have had a wife. If George Washington had an AWAC he'd have driven Lincoln away in 1776. If Iraq had an AWAC, Iraq could react to an attack. If Goddard had an AWAC instead of a blimp we would have been warned about Howard Coell.

If Richard Nixon had an AWAC he'd have been landed on Miami Beach. If George Washington had an AWAC he'd have brought his long John to Valley Forge. If Adam had an AWAC he would have called Out the Orkin Man. If you, George Washington, had an AWAC he could have outlived the medfly. If W.C. Fields had an AWAC he could still have gotten away with his

the other night when President Reagan addressed the nation on his proposed new budget cuts. It was pleased that he spoke in a concise, clear manner, leaving without the slightest doubt what he meant. I found my wife after he finished his speech that anyone could understand what he said. Anyone with the good sense God gave us would know what he said. "Now, I wonder," I said, "what those editing instructions referred to as television commentators going to say about it?"

"They're going to tell you what he said," my wife said. "Well, I just heard the man, I know what he said. Any idiot knows what he said. What is there left to explain?" I wanted to know.

For 15 minutes, the commentators sat around and tried to explain what was clear in the first place. If they can "clarify" on a talk straightforward and uncomplicated, can you imagine what the network news bounds would have done with Lincoln's Gettysburg Address? I can just get this

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